FLUORESCENT DYED LUBRICANT FOR MEDICAL DEVICES

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A composition and method for detecting the presence, location and uniformity of a lubricious coating on a medical device. The method includes the steps of preparing a mixture of a biocompatible hydrophilic fluorescent dye and a hydrophobic lubricant, applying the mixture to the surface of a medical device to form a coating capable of exhibiting fluorescence, and subjecting the surface of the medical device to a source of energy capable of inducing a fluorescent emission. The coating composition may further comprise a surfactant. This method finds particular utility for catheters, especially stent delivery catheters.